

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor :Hiroaki HONJO, et al.
Filed :Concurrently herewith
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Serial Number :Concurrently herewith

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 31, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449. Copies of such documents were made of record in the parent case, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/113,608 filed April 1, 2002 and the grandparent case 09/672,597 filed on September 28, 2000. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended

that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael I. Markowitz
Reg. No. 30,659

Customer Number: 026304
Docket No: NECG 17.810A

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Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1449/PTO	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Application No. :
		Filing Date :
		First Named Inventor: H. HONJO
		Group Art Unit :
		Examiner Name :
		Attorney Docket No. : NECG 17.810B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	6,562,487			Vas'ko et al.	05-2003	
	6,473,960			Schwartz et al.	11-2002	
	6,466,416			Honjo et al.	10-2002	
	6,445,537			Cates	09-2002	
	6,301,075			Sato	10-2001	
	6,132,892			Yoshikawa et al.	10-2000	
	5,989,728			Coffey et al.	11-1999	
	5,966,277			Koshikawa et al.	10-1999	
	5,850,325			Miyauchi et al.	12-1998	
	5,864,450 A			Chen et al.	01-1999	
	5,812,350 A			Chen et al.	09-1998	
	5,606,478 A			Chen et al.		
	5,438,747			KROUNBI, et al.	08/08/1995	
	4,661,216			ANDERSON, et al.	04/28/1987	

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		50-95147	JP	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	07/29/1975	
		10-241125	JP	HITACHI LTD	09/11/1998	
		07-254120	JP	HITACHI LTD	10/03/1995	
		08-321010	JP	SUMITOMO METAL IND LTD	12/03/1996	
		61-246908	JP	SEIKO EPSON CORP	11/04/1986	
		07-235017	JP	SONY CORP	09/05/1995	
		63-079305	JP	NEC CORP	04/09/1988	
		11-025420	JP	HITACHI LTD	01/29/1999	
		09-138930	JP	HITACHI LTD	05/27/1997	
		08-212512	JP	HITACHI LTD	08/20/1996	
		10-162322	JP	NEC CORP	06/19/1998	
		11-016120	JP	HITACHI LTD	01/22/1999	
		06-346202	JP	TDK CORP, et al.	12/20/1994	
		07-003489	JP	TDK CORP	01/06/1995	

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
Examiner Signature			Date Considered

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¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1⁴ if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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